

City of Westfield Storm Debris Seminar



Panel Members:

Mayor Daniel M. Knapik

Emergency Management Director: Jim Wiggs

Department of Public Works Director: James Mulvenna

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

CITY OF WESTFIELD

❖ Population	40,000
❖ Land area	46.85 sq miles
❖ Miles of Streets	222
❖ # of Public & Private Streets	720

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 30

- ❖ **City crews clearing high traffic roads & major subdivisions allowing access in and out**
- ❖ **19,000 households and businesses without power (95%)**
- ❖ **Many roads nearly impassible**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

MONDAY – OCTOBER 31

- ❖ **City crews continue clearing roadways hard hit with downed branches and trees.**
- ❖ **Power restoration continues.**
- ❖ **Nearly all of businesses along main street are operational allowing residents to get out.**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

NOVEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 2

- ❖ **13 Private contractors hired to help with removal of brush from roadways**
- ❖ **Each assigned a section of the city for pickup and disposal**
- ❖ **Brush continued to be removed by city crews, contractors, Mass DOT and DCR equipment**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

NOVEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 2

- ❖ **Early visit (first 60 hours) by FEMA rep toured city, preliminary estimate of \$12 million for clean up**
- ❖ **We made the decision to do it in house that day**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

NOVEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 2

- ❖ **City streets mostly cleared and power is nearly 100% restored by end of the week.**
- ❖ **City worked with vendors to identify 5 drop off locations for debris – strategically located to shorten travel time.**

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NOVEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 2

- ❖ **City opens transfer station for public to bring storm related debris.**
- ❖ **City clears streets corresponding with the sanitation routes.**
- ❖ **Advance notice given to residents of debris pickup**

Winter Storm

October 29, 2011

NOVEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 2

- ❖ Over the course of the month vendors dropped off debris at locations
- ❖ DPW requests quotes for grinding brush est. at 160,000 to 165,000 yards
- ❖ City hired grinders to work at each location

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

DECEMBER 2011

- ❖ **Total Cost to Public Works account
approximately \$1,026,692.00**
- ❖ **Total DPW Snow Removal for the season
\$1,271,575.05**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

DECEMBER 2011

- ❖ **Total does not include other city department costs (Fire, Police, Gas and Electric, Water, Wastewater, Public Health)**
- ❖ **Reimbursement likely...\$636,000 or 75% of FEMA declared eligible expenses**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

LESSONS LEARNED...

- ❖ **A robust initial effort by joint city departments, DPW, Water, Gas and Electric and Water with their vendors is the most efficient and cost effective method for restoring the community.**
- ❖ **Need a robust, prequalified vendor network**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

LESSONS LEARNED...

- ❖ **Need Central Management including prompt procurement (purchasing) by City leaders to ensure resources are not wasted and are deployed appropriately**
- ❖ **Communication, Communication, Communication**

Winter Storm October 29, 2011

LESSONS LEARNED...

- ❖ **Past experience with Tornado and Tropical Storm Irene**
- ❖ **National Guard Assets, State Assets, MEMA and FEMA**

Questions??